

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
NEWS RELEASE**



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner
Jeff Regnart, Director*



Contact:

Jim Menard, Area Management Biologist
Hilary Upicksoun, Salmon Catch Monitor
Phone: (907) 442-3420 or 1-800-560-2271
Fax: (907) 443-5893

Nome Area Office
P.O. Box 1148
Nome, Alaska 99762
Date Issued: 8/29/2012
Time: 10:00 a.m.

KOTZEBUE COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHING OPENINGS

Commercial salmon fishing will be open for 6 hours daily from the hours of 3 p.m. until 9 p.m. beginning Wednesday, August 29 and ending at 9 p.m. Friday, August 31. After Friday's fishing period the Kotzebue commercial salmon season will close.

Last night's harvest during the 6-hour fishing period was 416 chum salmon by 11 permit holders. Catches for the last week have been under 1,000 chum salmon per fishing period and fishing effort continues to be below average.

Cumulative catch is over 225,000 chum salmon and is expected to finish near 230,000 chum salmon and will fall short of the forecast of 250,000 to 280,000 chum salmon for this season's commercial fishery. The last fishing period with over 1,000 chum salmon in the catch was on August 20 when 2,456 chum salmon were caught by 26 permit holders. Coincidentally, that was last time over 14 permit holders fished.

If you have any questions concerning the fishery you can call the Kotzebue office at 442-3420, or the Commercial Fisheries office in Nome at 1-800-560-2271 or the buyer at 442-4192.